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RRCA Music Theatre Company Logo
Proudly Presents

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM LOGO

Book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart

Music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Originally produced on Broadway by Harold S. Prince

Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
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New York, New York 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-3974684 www.MTIShows.com

March 13-15, 2009

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Act I

Act I

“Comedy Tonight”	Prologus, Proteans, Company
“Love, I Hear”	Hero
“Free”	Pseudolus, Hero
“The House of Marcus Lycus”	Lycus, Pseudolus, Courtesans
“Lovely”	Hero, Philia
“Pretty Little Picture”	Pseudolus, Hero, Philia
“Everybody Ought to Have a Maid”	Senex, Pseudolus, Hysterium, Lycus
“I’m Calm”	Hysterium
“Impossible”	Senex, Hero
“Bring Me My Bride”	Miles, Pseudolus, Courtesans, Proteans

Act II

“That Dirty Old Man”	Domina
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“That’ll Show Him”	Philia
“Lovely”	Pseudolus, Hysterium
Funeral Sequence and Dance	Pseudolus, Miles, Courtesans, Proteans
Chase	Company
“Comedy Tonight”	Company

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The Cast

Prologus/Pseudolus	David Wahr
Hysterium	Steve Thornton
Marcus Lycus	WilliamMcCloskey
Senex	Chris Chavez
Domina	Mary Kurtz
Erronius	Robert Yoman
Hero	Christopher Chavez
Philia	Samantha Martin
Miles Gloriosus	Joshua Mohler
Proteans	Patrick Felder, Robert Chester, Rudy Gonzales
Tintinabula	Carolyn Sohoza
Panacea	Alyssa Langmeyer
The Geminae	Danielle Mohrbach, Kylie Parks
Vibrata	Melissa Moore
Gymnasia	Erika Kandler

The Orchestra

Music Director
Mark B. Felder

REEDS
Paul DeVee
Tim Vesey
Russ Carpenter
Hank Lehrer

TRUMPETS
Bob McMillan
Bob Cox
Brian Sullivan

TROMBONE I
David Bachar

KEYBOARDS
Elizabeth Stewart

BASS
Chris Morelli

DRUMS
Jim Briggs

PERCUSSION
Steve Whitford

Production Staff

Director _____ John Bacarella

Musical Director _____ Mark Felder
 Choreographer _____ Kellie Lajiness
 Assistant Director/ Stage Manager _____ Mary Timko
 Stage Manager _____ Joanna Bacarella
 Costume Design and Construction _____ Penni Bonomo-Pawlicki, Michelle Sontag
 Props _____ Mary Timko
 Set Design and Painting _____ Lois Morris
 Set Construction _____ Derek Arnold, Cameron Eggly
 Lights _____ Mike Trapp
 Sound _____ Derek Arnold
 Rehearsal Accompanist _____ Elizabeth Stewart

Cast Bio's

John Bacarella (Director)- In the five short years that John's been back in Monroe, he's been able to make his annoying presence felt in the creative community. He cannot help but stick his nose in wherever there is a theatrical production that will tolerate his highly overrated opinions and futile efforts in tastemaking. He has managed NOT to alienate everyone that he works with, but doesn't know how much longer his luck will hold out. His family still speaks to him (on occasion) and still leaves the door unlocked when he comes home at midnight. Some of his past endeavors include: Chicago, 42nd Street, JC Superstar, and Urinetown with the RRCA Music Theater, shows with the QuagMeyer players at MCCC, directing shows for SMCC and the Summer Youth Theater here at the RRCA. He thanks you all for the opportunity (and the ulcer!)

Mark B. Felder (musical director) comes to the RRCA with a history of excellence and a background of directing over one-hundred musicals and performing in countless others. He has directed for Monroe Community Players, Monroe Repertory Theater, Huron Civic Theater, SMCC Alumni Theater as well as Southgate and Wyandotte Community Theaters. He also served as musical director at Croswell Opera House for twelve years. You saw him last as music director for the RRCA's productions of "Chicago" and "Gypsy". In 1991 Mark was given the opportunity to become music director for the Second National Tour of "Into The Woods". For that he earned the "Obie" award for best Chicago musical director and was nominated for the prestigious "Jeff" award for best music director. On the local scene Mark can regularly be seen performing with the Johnny Knorr Orchestra. He recently retired as band director at Jefferson High School, but can still be seen directing the Monroe College-Community Band. In his spare time (?) he teaches education classes at MC3, works for a fund raising company and runs his own Recording Studio, "Vivo Productions".

Kellie M. Lajiness (Choreographer) -Kellie shares her life with her husband Tim and three children Nolan, Bryce and Monique. An advocate for providing high quality dance training to the community, Kellie celebrates her 13th Season as Dance Director for the RRCA Dance Academy where she instructs and attends to the artistic and administrative needs of the school. Her newest endeavor is SOCKS, Monroe's first Modern Dance Company committed to the best in contemporary arts. She also teaches dance technique courses and dance history at the Monroe County Community College, conducts special workshops for dance exploration in many local schools, and often co-produces, directs and choreographs musicals and other venues through the RRCA. Kellie is a critically acclaimed and well traveled featured performer, choreographer, and instructor, prolifically experienced in concert dance, studio work, ballroom and musical theatre. Kellie holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance from Western Michigan University where she received the Presidential Scholar Award and was a member of the faculty. She obtained her Masters in Dance from The Ohio State University with a concentration in choreography and performance. Kellie is a Regional Representative for the Michigan Dance Council and a member of Cecchetti Council of America and MAPHERD. She was recently recognized by the MCISD Creative Expressions for her work in mentorship programs. She wishes her best to the cast. Thanks for the comedic diversion!

Mary A. Timko (Assistant Director)- This is Mary's second time teaming up with John Bacarella as assistant director. "This experience has solidified my belief that one must work behind the scenes, as well as on the stage, in order to appreciate the hard work it takes to produce a great show." Mary is currently assisting in the choreography of "Alice" and can be seen as the Dormouse/Cook. She thanks her husband and four kids for their love and support.

Chris Chavez (Senex) – Having majored in vocal music education at Eastern Michigan University, Chris has been performing for over 50 years. He has worked with Fred Waring and the Pennsylvanians and toured England with the EMU Madrigal Singers. Some favorite past roles include: Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde, The King (*King and I*), Jesus (*JC Superstar*), Curly (*Oklahoma!*), Lancelot (*Camelot*), Rutledge (*1776*). Christ would like to thank the entire RRMTTC family for allowing him this opportunity to work with his supremely talented son, and many thanks to the marvelous women in my life for their ongoing support. Love ya, mom, Kayla, and Meg.

Christopher Chavez II (Hero)- Chris is 15 years old and is honored to be in this cast. Other roles Chris has done are Pippin, Cain/Japeth (*Children of Eden*), and Seymour Krelborn (*Little Shop of Horrors*). In his free time, Chris enjoys singing, dancing, playing the piano, and playing basketball. He would like to thank his mom and dad, all his friends who came to see the show, this wonderful cast, and his beautiful girlfriend, Isabella.

Robert Chester (Protean) –This is Robert's third stage performance with the RRMTTC. He is relatively new to the stage, beginning his theatrical experience in the Musicals *Chicago* and *Rocky Horror Pictures Show*. He hopes to pursue a career in theatre.

Patrick Felder (Protean)- While only 16, is no stranger to the theater. His credits include the title role in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Chip in *Beauty and the Beast*, the wizard in *Once Upon a Mattress*, and Horace in *The Legend of Sleeping Beauty*. He has also been part of *Gypsy*, *Children of Eden*, *Oliver*, *Footloose*, and *Bye, Bye Birdie*. He is excited to be part of this talented cast and is especially grateful for all the support and wisdom of his friends and family. J

Rudy Gonzales (Protean) - Rudy is a sophomore at MHS. He is in concert choir and is active in the drama club and was recently in *Bye, Bye, Birdie*. This is Rudy's third show at the RRCA. He looks forward to more great shows here.

Erika Kandler (Gymnasia) – 23 year old Erika began dancing at the age of 3 and competed for Peg Harris and Haja Dance Studios. She fell in love with the theater a couple of years ago and was lucky enough to be a part of *JC Superstar!* She is happy to be back on stage again at the RRCA.

Mary E. Kurtz (Domina)- Imagine that-Mary playing the part of an old dried up, domineering mother from hell... Do you think John is trying to tell me something? First-washed up Broadway star in *42nd Street*, then the mother of all mothers in *Gypsy* and now this. Oh, well, you take what you can get. Love to Ethan and soon to be Jarren.

Alyssa Langmeyer (Panacea) - Alyssa is a seventeen year old senior at Monroe High School. She has been dancing for 15 years and is currently a senior member of the River Raisin Ballet Company. She recently performed in *The Nutcracker* as the Arabian Princess, Dew Drop, and a snowflake. Her next role is the Fairy Godmother in the ballet company's, *Cinderella*. This is her first musical and she is very excited. She'd like to thank her family for dealing with her craziness these past few months. Hi Mom!

Sam Martin (Philia) - Sam has appeared in numerous productions including *42nd Street*, *Anything Goes*, and *Chicago* for RRMTTC and *Rigoletto* for Toledo Opera. She is a student at MHS and trains at Toledo Ballet and RRCA School of Music. She has attended summer dance intensives with the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes, and at the University of Michigan. Huge thanks to friends, family, Tracy, Mark, John, and Kellie.

Bill McCloskey (Marcus Lycus)- Bill has ben involved in theatre for over 40 years. This is his second performance for the RRCA; last year, he appeared as the JURY in *Chicago*. He has performed at the Crosswell Opera House, the Huron Civic Theater, and the Toledo Rep, among others. Bill is a professor of English at Monroe County Community College where he recently played Mortimer in their production of the *Fantastiks*. P.S. Mary Timko is the Goddess of Bling.

Josh Mohler (Miles Gloriosus)- This show, along with Cinderella, will be his 17th and 18th shows with the RRCA. He is currently attending Sienna Heights University in his pursuit to become an Elementary School Teacher.

Danielle Morhbach (Geminae)- Danielle is a sophomore at Monroe High School. She has spent more time at the RRCA than at her own home since the age of nine. Danielle is delighted to partake in her 12th show, and thanks the cast, crew, her loving family, friends, and God.

Kylie Parks (Geminae)- Over the years, the RRCA has become a second home to Kylie. Between performing and tech the RRCA is responsible for the majority of her resume. After Forum, Kylie will be appearing in Monroe Community Players' *Alice in Wonderland*. She would like to thank her friends and family for all of the support.

Carolyn Sohoza (Tintinabula)- This is Carolyn's third show with the RRCA. Her favorite roles include Velma Kelly in *Chicago*, Babette, in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl*. Other shows she's appeared in include, *Gypsy*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Aida*. Love to her family for their support!

Steven Thornton (Hysterium)- Steven is a veteran of the Monroe Theatre scene for over a dozen years. He has appeared in productions of *The Fantastiks*, *All in the Timing*, *Oliver!*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Annie*, *Fiddler On the Roof*, *Into the Woods*, and *Joseph*. Steven lives in Lasalle with his wife, Roseanne. Regarding his role as hysterium-hey, how 'bout dem Bears?

David Whar (Prologus/Pseudolus)- David has appeared in numerous productions primarily with the Monroe Community Players. He was last on stage with the RRMTTC as Pilate in *JC Superstar*. Next he will be directing *Upon the Health*, a play he wrote and is one of the two plays selected to represent Michigan at Regional AACTfest in South Bend, Indiana this coming April.

Robert Yoman (Erronius)- A long-time member of the Monroe Community Players, Bob last appeared on the RRCA stage as 4 different characters in last year's *Gypsy*. Bob works at Target in the Frenchtown Mall, and would like to thank all his friends and family for their support over the past 6 weeks.